

SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS (SPS) EVENT

# **The Tale of Radiation: *From Quack Medicine to Cancer Treatment***

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## Abstract:

With the first discovery of X-Rays in 1895 by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen, a new field in science and medicine emerged. We explore the history of radiation, highlighting its significance to science as information about the “glowing green stuff” is unearthed. We will thumb through the chapters of the history of radiation, discussing the most famous events and exploring the mistakes that come with learning a new science. Significant historical pieces are paired with their bizarre and often tragic stories and are available for public viewing. As we approach the modern tales, we discuss radiation in diagnostic and therapeutic medicine and the development of medical physics. The CSU Physics Department has provided its students with the ability to explore X-Rays in the laboratory with its own X-Ray apparatus. The unique exposure of this piece of equipment to students grants access to a piece of medical physics one usually doesn't see until working in the field. Highlights of this apparatus along with tales from the past are sure to intrigue and fascinate.

**WHERE**

**SI – 117** (next to the Physics Computer Lab)

**WHEN**

**Noon- 1pm**

**Thursday, February 14, 2008**